

CONFIDENTIAL

27 April 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Internal Chinese Language Training Program

1. The attached report was submitted to me by [REDACTED] just prior to his release from CIA to return to his parent service.

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2. The report represents another failure on the part of the Office of Training to plan intelligently for language training requirements of the Agency. It was our belief that the world situation indicated that the Agency would have a continuing requirement for career employees who can read, speak or write Chinese (Mandarin). Early in 1951, we made exhaustive attempts to recruit a qualified civilian Chinese linguist. When these attempts failed, we requested help from the Department of Defense and had assigned to the Agency a regular rated USAF officer who was qualified to teach Chinese.

3. The report speaks for itself and, in consequence, I have, at [REDACTED] request, released him from his commitment to CIA and returned him for assignment to the Air Force--with some embarrassment, I might add, to me on behalf of the Agency.

4. I would be interested to know what your comments are on this situation and to know whether, in effect, it is true that the Agency has no requirements in written and spoken Chinese or whether some of us are not giving the attention to long-range planning that is required.

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[REDACTED]
MATTHEW BAIRD
Director of Training

Attachment

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